

the strength is, where the wear and tear has occurred and where the frayed edges and holes have occurred.

The mending occurs when we revise current policies and implement new ones. To create an effective policy and weave a durable social fabric we must add the appropriate thread in the correct proportions.

Just as the textile industry weaves nylon thread to create a more durable cloth, to break the cycle of teen pregnancy and poverty, we must implement pregnancy prevention programs that educate and support school age youths [10-21] in high risk situations and their family members through comprehensive social and health services, with an emphasis on pregnancy prevention.

I strongly support abstinence education and feel that it is critically important to fund abstinence programs for preteens as well as teenagers. Within 5 years, a concentrated abstinence program for preteens should bring about a decline in the number of teenagers who are sexually active.

However, we cannot ignore the fact that today, so many of our teenagers are already sexually active. It is therefore imperative that we also provide funding for comprehensive prevention programs including contraceptive use.

We must also weave a comprehensive policy to address the numerous factors that contribute to the number of teenagers having babies. We currently have a patchwork of different policies which has been created by patching the holes in our social fabric.

Every time a problem began to tear the social fabric, it was patched by creating an individual policy to address each individual problem.

This patchwork includes the obvious differing policies: Encouraging abstinence, preventing unintended pregnancies among the sexually active, alleviating the problems associated to adolescent parenthood, and attempting to ensure that teen pregnancy does not lead to welfare dependency.

However, there are big holes in the fabric that have not been patched. These include establishing paternity and holding fathers financially responsible, enforcing child support laws, protecting young teenagers from sexual abuse, and enforcing States' statutory rape laws that are currently on the books.

We must weave a comprehensive policy into the social fabric at the federal level to prevent teen pregnancies.

The first thread is a policy that allows state and local agencies to implement concentrated, organized contraceptive intervention programs.

The second thread is to enact cohesive policies and laws, at the Federal, State and local levels.

The third thread is sufficient Federal funding to implement them.

Devoting more resources to preventing teen pregnancy will not only save us money in the long run, but it will strengthen the social fabric by improving the health, education, economic op-

portunities and well-being of our Nation's youth.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF COACH ELVIN J. JAMES, GOLDSBORO, NC

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. JONES] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of an outstanding individual from eastern North Carolina, Elvin J. James.

Elvin James is the head football coach at Goldsboro High School, in my district in North Carolina. Recently, USA Weekend Magazine honored Coach James with its "Most Caring Coach Award, 1996."

Without a doubt, education is an issue that is critically important to the future of our country. Though we spend more money on education than any other country in the world—\$27 billion to be exact—our students' test scores and literacy levels have steadily declined.

It is becoming more and more clear that we must return education to parents, local communities, and especially to teachers. Mr. Speaker, it is a teacher like Coach James, who goes that extra mile, who dedicates so much of himself to his students, that brings this message home.

Coach James is a living example of where hard work and dedication can take you in this world. Coach James grew up in Beaufort, NC, and was adopted by his grandmother, Jennie James, who supported him and eight other children by working as a maid.

She admits to this day that the family had very little, but Jennie James taught her children right from wrong.

Her continuing message, "Get an education, work hard, be respectful," had a great impact on Coach James' life.

Coach James excelled in football and other sports during his school years. In 1974, he was awarded an athletic scholarship by Elizabeth City State University in North Carolina, to play football and to pursue a college education.

Unable to pay for his expenses, James left school and joined the U.S. Army. After serving 4 years, he returned to college and earned a degree in education.

He has been teaching ever since. Coach James currently lives with his wife Mary Kay, their daughter, Ashelyn and their son, Elvin Jarrod.

Mr. Speaker, Elvin James is worthy of our recognition for more than just this. During the past 10 years, Coach James had helped more than 50 students earn college scholarships, and helped numerous students stay in school.

He spends countless hours on the phone talking with college coaches about potential candidates. Many times a year, Elvin James travels from State to State, taking students on

campus visits and trying to introduce them to opportunities, they never dreamed were possible.

Since he began, Coach James has put more than 80,000 miles on his car. He has spent more than \$3,000 of his own money, and given up more than 45 of his sick and vacation days to take these players on recruiting trips.

Less than a half-dozen of these players would have received scholarships if it had not been for these trips.

Coach James doesn't stop here. James is there for each student, literally, every step of the way; helping them prepare for the SAT or helping them fill out their college applications.

On several occasions, when parents were unable to take their children to college, Coach James was the one who took them and helped them move in. He has even let students with family troubles move in for a while, until things at home got worked out.

Coach James works in a school that serves many disadvantaged students. Many of his students come from broken homes. By many of society's standards, the odds are against these children's success.

However, Coach James is a great motivator, who encourages students to believe in themselves, even when no one else does. When Coach James looks at these children, he sees wonderful young men and women, who, if given the opportunity, will become outstanding and productive citizens.

Mr. Speaker, for more than 14 years, Elvin James has been touching the lives of young people. He deserves this award and our praise tonight.

Coach Elvin James, USA Weekend Magazine's Most Caring Coach, 1996, is an example of what is truly right with our education system. Our country and especially our children need more teachers and parents, just like Coach James.

I am proud to recognize Coach James, as a symbol of all the men and women who have dedicated their lives to education, and who care so much about our children's future.

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#### THE 1997 REPUBLICAN BUDGET: THE STAND AGAINST CHILDREN

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NEY). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. FILNER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, this coming Saturday, June 1, thousands of families, schools, churches, synagogues, and other organizations will gather at the Lincoln Memorial for what is aptly being called the Stand for Children. Stand for Children is a national day of commitment to children that has been convened by the Children's Defense Fund and endorsed by more than 3,000 national, State, and local organizations.